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**RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION  
EXPEDITED EXAMINING PROCEDURE- GROUP 1600/ART UNIT 1652**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

OFFICIAL

APPLICANTS : MANFRED T. REETZ ET AL.  
SERIAL NO. : 09/463,494  
FILED : July 25, 2000  
FOR : METHOD FOR PRODUCING AND IDENTIFYING NEW  
HYDROLASES HAVING IMPROVED PROPERTIES  
ART UNIT : 1652  
EXAMINER : C. Patterson

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March 8, 2004

**BOX AF**

Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116**

SIR:

In response to the Final Rejection dated April 4, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.